

Docket No.: K0600.0214/P214  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Kenzo Hiraoka

Application No.: N/A

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: February 7, 2006

Art Unit: N/A

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
IONIZATION BY CLUSTER-ION IMPACT  
\_\_\_\_\_

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which were previously amended and under a Article 34 Amendment.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.